THE

True and Wonderful Story

OF

PAUL GASFORD,

Who, when only about four years old was lost in the woods, and by his own remarkable contrivance and wisdom, after four days' travel, got safe to his parents, at Niagara, 40 miles from the place where he was lost.

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PREFACE.

The following true and remarkable story is taken from the Christian Advocate, a respectable paper published by the Methodist connexion, in the city of New-York. "The "young man was eighteen years "old when I saw him," says the writer, "and he distinctly recol- "lected the whole affair, as if it "had been but a few days past. I "have since been informed that he "has embraced religion, and has "become a circuit steward."

PAUL GASFORD.

"When my father and my mother forsake me, then the Lord will take me up." *Psalms*, xxvii. 10.

"And they wept sore and fell on Paul's neck, and kissed him, sorrowing most of all for the words which he spake, that they should see his face no more." *Acts*, xx. 37, 38.

Paul Gasford was but little more than 4 years old when his father's family were moving from the

Bay of Quinté to Niagara in a small boat. When they were within forty miles of Niagara, they went ashore to cook some victuals; and there being some sarsaparilla growing in the woods near by, the mother said she would give sixpence to that child that would gather most. So Paul went with the rest of the children to gather the sarsaparilla, and when they thought they had gathered enough to gain the promised reward, they ran towards the lake, leaving

Paul behind, who thought within himself that he would gather the most, and thus ensure the reward. At length he started, and ran, as he thought, towards the place where the company went ashore, but soon lost his way. He continued running about

and crying until nearly sun down. He then came down to the lake, but knew not whether he was ahead or astern of the company. So he ran about on the beach, first one way and then another, until it began to grow dark. He then gave over running

and crying, and fixed on a plan to get to Niagara. Having heard his friends say that they were now within forty miles of the place, he thought he could get through in four days. But what should he do for food? He concluded that he could live without food during that time, and so he laid himself down to rest upon the sandy beach. He had heard that some persons, when waked out of sleep, were so lost to every thing about them, as not to know where they

were, or which way to go; and lest this should be his case, he made a hole in the sand to lie down in, and set a stick in the sand pointing the way he must go. He then covered himself all over, except his head, with sand, and composed himself to sleep. In the

morning he rose as cheerful as the lark, and pursued his way without crying for three days more, being careful at night to set his little staff in the sand. Sometimes he travelled on the beach, and sometimes, when he had to double a

cape, he ascended the rocks, but was always careful to keep within sight of the lake. On his way, he found some grapes, of which he gathered enough to eat at the time, and to fill his bosom besides. He had heard his mother say it

was not good to eat many grapes at once, and thinking, as all good children do, that what *mother* says must be true, he only allowed himself to eat one bunch at a time. This was good economy for a child; for by this means his little stock lasted the longer, and his health was not injured by over-eating. On his journey he saw two or three Indians coming along the shore, and was afraid they would carry him away; but he hid himself behind a tree.

Their dog came very near him, but did not discover him, nor did the Indians see him, and he was very glad when they were out of sight. And who is there that knows any thing of the horrors of captivity but would be glad too for

the little traveller? On the fourth day he arrived at Niagara, to the great joy of his parents, and to the surprise of all that knew the circumstance. Even the Governor himself was so astonished at the fact, that he sent for the

little boy, and would have kept him, if his mother had been willing to give him up. The family had searched for him with great anxiety for three days. They had made great fires, and fired guns, but all to no purpose ; and

when they came to the conclusion that he was lost, and to proceed without him, they had to take his mother by force, and put her into the boat. Providence, however, overruled the whole, and restored the lost son to his mother and friends; and herein was that scripture fulfilled, "When my father and mother forsake me, then the Lord shall take me up."

ADVICE FROM A BEE.

Pretty Bee. pray tell me why,
Thus from flower to flower you fly,
Culling sweets the live-long day,
Never leaving off to play?—
Little child, I'll tell you why
Thus from flower to flower I fly;
Let the cause thy thoughts engage,
From thy youth to riper age.
Summer flowers will soon be o'er,
Winter comes, they bloom no more
Finest days will soon be past,
Brightest suns will set at last.
Little child, now learn of me,
Let thy youth the seed time be;
And when wintry age shall come,
Richly bear thy harvest home.

SCHOOL BOOKS,

For sale by M. Day, 376 Pearl-st.

GEOGRAPHIES.

Willet's Geography
Woodbridge's Geography
Olney's Geography
Cumming's Geography
Morse's Geography
Goodrich's Geography
Willard's Geography
Worcester's Geography
Adam's Geography
Hart's Geography
Gummere's Geography
Smiley's Geography
Woodbridge & Willard's Geog'y
Malte Brun's Geography
Field's School Geography
With the Atlasses to the above
Hall's Child's Book of Geography
Peter Parley's Geography
Worcester's Historical Chart
Geographical Cards, combining instruction with amusement.